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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia/Germany(Soviet Zone)

SUBJECT Czech Military Mission in Berlin

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1. The Czech Military Mission was established shortly after the termination of hostilities in 1945. It was created on the pattern of an embassy and accredited to all four Allied Powers, a status which is unchanged even today. From the Czech point of view, the Military Mission was particularly important because it enjoyed a unique position; its activities could not be terminated or its accreditation withdrawn at the discretion of any one of the Allied Powers. Such action could only come as the result of the agreement of all four Allied Powers. Consequently, the Mission is considered permanent and the Czech Government appreciates this fact.

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2. The Military Mission was located in the Western Sector of Berlin. The primary purpose of the Mission was to report on political and economic development in West Berlin and Western Germany. This included information on the integration of West Germany into the Schuman Plan, the coal situation, friction between the CDU and SPD, extreme Rightist parties, and Allied policies with respect to the various political parties. Intelligence was collected from newspapers and broadcasts, and at receptions attended by representatives from both the East and the West. These receptions were pretty much on a "give and take" basis. Both sides were eager to obtain information, but they realized that they would have to give information in order to get any. Directives pertaining to all activities of the Military Mission came from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and all reports and information from the Mission were sent to the Ministry. Directives from the Ministry were signed either by Vice Minister Borek (head of Division B. and since September 1951 in charge of the A-VI Department of Division A) or Herman, head of Department A-VI, Germany-Austria.

3.

[redacted] the CP sent no directives nor did it issue any orders to the Military Mission. All Czech nationals with the Mission had been cleared by their respective Cadre Departments; this clearance is actually a check of political loyalty.

4.

[redacted] no Soviet representative ever exercised policy-making or jurisdictional authority over the Mission.

[redacted] The Czech Military Mission in Berlin carried on a good deal of protocol correspondence with the Soviet representatives regarding requests for restitution of property (non-stationary assets rather than real estate) which formerly belonged to Czechs but had been taken by the Germans. (Such requests for restitution were forwarded to Soviet Protocol, Attention: Restitution Office, Military Commander in East Germany). In the period right after the war, the Soviets took care of most of the claims, but since 1948 practically none had met with success. After September 1950 such requests were handled by the Czech Diplomatic Mission which negotiated with the Germans. Another type of request sent to the Soviets from the Czech Military Mission in Berlin was for permission for Czech aircraft to fly over East Germany en route to Scandinavia and for authorization for Czech planes to land in East Germany or East Berlin. (At present there is a regularly scheduled flight of one plane per week between Prague and East Berlin.) Demands for extradition of criminals (including war criminals) were also the subject of requests. This was the extent of the formal relations between the Czech Military Mission and Soviet representatives. Members of the Czech Military Mission met representatives of the USSR at official receptions, but contact was at a minimum since almost no one with the Czech Mission spoke Russian, and the Soviets spoke nothing else. A former chief of the Mission, Snejdarek, spoke Russian and he maintained contact with Semyonov, Ambassador and Political Adviser to Gen Chuikov, but Snejdarek was the Mission's only contact with the USSR before the Czech Diplomatic Mission was set

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up in East Berlin. [redacted] Snejdarek
discussed various political problems with Semyonov [redacted]
[redacted]

5. Members of the Military Mission were forbidden to mingle with or contact West German officials since the CSR recognized only the East German government. At official receptions, the Czechs were given strict instructions to ignore the West Germans.
6. As of October 1951, the following persons were members of the Czech Military Mission in Berlin:

(a) Dr Gustav Solar, chief of the Mission [redacted]

(b) Vasatko (fnu), Czech Military Attache in West Berlin [redacted]

(c) Frantisek Mueller, First Secretary of the Mission [redacted]

(d) Blastik (fnu) is a secretary at the Mission. [redacted]

(e) Sidlik (fnu), Foreign Ministry employee who is a cipher clerk and bookkeeper with the Mission [redacted]

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- (f) Antonin Simecek is Correspondence Clerk for the Mission;



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- (g) Ferdinand Wurm is the chief driver for the Mission and in charge of courier service to Prague. It is his duty to prepare the mail pouches and deliver them to the Czech Diplomatic Mission, and pick up mail from the Prague courier.



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- (h) Schumannova (fnc) handles all correspondence in English and French.



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- (i) Karla Tillemanova, acts as switchboard operator and handles all Russian correspondence of the Mission.



- (j) Fritz Gardzolewski, a German national, drives for the Mission.



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- (k) Guenther Kraczmarek, German national, is also a driver for the Mission.



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Of the people listed above, only three, Solar, Mueller, and Blastik are concerned with the actual collection and reporting of information as required by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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